ST. MARGARET OF HUNGARY CHURCH

1920-1970

Cleveland, Ohio

Our Church . . . Looking back fifty years

Our St. Margaret of Hungary Church has reached a notable milestone—50 Golden years of work in the Garden of the Lord. We can look at these glorious years and see a bountiful harvest—spiritual, social and cultural—that has enriched our lives.

In numerous ways the Church has instilled in us a strong faith and the love of God and His teachings. Parish life flowed steadily within the walls of our beloved Church. Here babies were baptized, as they grew they attended school, received their First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Young people were married here with great expectation for happiness. Our loved ones passed on to their eternal rest and we received comfort by the solemn Mass for the dead. During World War II, the Church was a refuge for family members of our fighting men far from home.

The many priests who served us so well over the years and the dedicated Sisters who educated our children are a vital part of the moving drama of this great half century. In contrast—the faithful flocked in large numbers and with great joy when our beloved Msgr. Andrew Koller observed his Golden Jubilee of his Ordination—and a few years later, we filed sorrowfully by the bier of our beloved Father John Mundweil.

The harshness of everyday living was softened as we attended Holy Mass, Holy Hours, Novenas, Devotions, Retreats, Missions and by the wonderful sermons by our priests and the advice and words of understanding as we went to confession. The inspiring Feast of Christmas and Easter, the Corpus Christi Procession, the Easter Vigil and the Christmas Eve Mass made our lives reach out to new heights of inspiration.

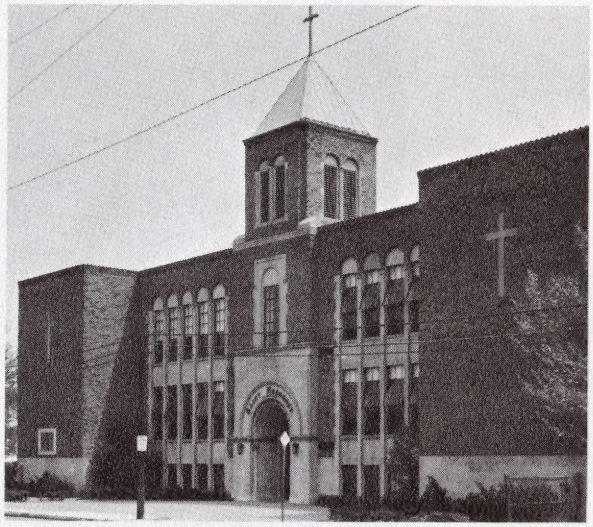
Through these five decades there were many fine organizations that contributed something worthwhile for our spiritual enlightment, for leadership development as plans were made for dinners, banquets, dances, picnics and for our Harvest Festivals.

A special tribute must be paid to the early leaders of our Parish who are seeing this Jubilee Year actively through spiritual eyes. They worked and sacrificed and faithfully and zealously did establish our Church. Here they could worship in their own language and where they could keep the old traditions of their native land. Their work was so well done that to this day the Hungarian culture still thrives in our Parish.

Our pledge to these honored parishioners is that we will carry on their dream and vision. In one sense—the effort in creating this book is a tribute to all who have passed on and for the hardy pioneers who are still with us.

These few words can only slightly reflect the 50 years of rewarding accomplishments of our Church—but the influence for good has been imprinted in the minds and hearts of all the parishioners of St. Margaret of Hungary Parish.

"TO THE 50 YEARS OF ORGANIZATION AND THE MANY PEOPLE WHO WORKED TO MAKE THIS PARISH A LIVING ORGAN OF THE "UNIVERSAL CHURCH"



St. Margaret of Hungary

Parish

50th Anniversary

60th Anniversary

of the Ordination to the

Priesthood of

Msgr. Andrew Koller

Pastor Emeritus

— June 29, 1910 —

700th Anniversary

of the Death of

St. Margaret of Hungary

Patron Saint of Our Parish

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

October 30, 1969

Reverend and dear Father:

On the joyous occasion of the Golden Jubilee of St. Margaret of Hungary Parish, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that our Most Holy Father, Pope Paul VI, has graciously deigned to bestow his Apostolic Benediction upon you, the clergy and religious associated with you, the parishioners, and all who join in observing this happy event.

Much has been accomplished for the honor and glory of Almighty God during these past fifty years, for this reason, there is joy and deep gratitude in the hearts of all who have been associated with St. Margaret of Hungary Parish. In the years to come, may Our Lord ever continue to draw the priests and people of the parish closer to Himself, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

To this Blessing of the Sovereign Pontiff, I wish to add my personal congratulations and good wishes. With sentiments of esteem and renewed felicitations, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Luigi Raimondi

Apostolic Delegate

Reverend Desider Hoffmann
Pastor
St. Margaret of Hungary Parish
Cleveland, Ohio

Pope Paul VI

BISHOPS

Bishop
Clarence G. Issenmann

Auxiliary Bishop
William M. Cosgrove, DD

THE CHANCERY
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
CHANCERY BUILDING, CATHEDRAL SQUARE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114

To Father Desider Hoffmann, pastor,
Father Ladislaus Rosko, assistant,
Daughters of the Divine Redeemer and Lay Teachers
and Parishioners of St. Margaret of Hungary Parish:

The Diocese of Cleveland unites with St. Margaret of Hungary Parish in thanking Almighty God for the favors and graces of fifty years.

We are prayerfully mindful also of the 60th Anniversary of the priesthood of your former pastor, Right Reverend Monsignor Andrew Koller.

We join with you in honoring St. Margaret of Hungary, patron saint of your parish, on the 700th year of her death. We ask her to continue her special patronage and maternal solicitude over the parish and the priests, religious and people who call upon her name in staunch faith and childlike confidence in her powerful intercession with God.

The Hungarian people have a glorious history of fidelity to the Faith and the Church, even to being the defenders and saviors of Christianity for Western Europe against the threats of pagan Islamism. This precious heritage of the Faith has been passed to succeeding generations through the centuries. We pray God that the blessing of perseverance in the Faith of your Fathers may ever be the example of the Hungarian people, wherever in the world they may be found.

While we thank God for the half-century now completed, we humbly petition His continued graces in ever increasing abundance in the years ahead, to His honor and glory, the growth of the Church and the salvation of souls.

With my blessing, I am

+ Clarence G. Issenmann
Bishop of Cleveland

Reverend Desider Hoffmann
St. Margaret of Hungary Church
2917 E. 116 St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44120

Right Reverend Monsignor Andrew Koller

On this, the Sixtieth Anniversary of my Ordination to the Holy Priesthood, I wish to give thanks to Almighty God for all the help and graces which He has so abundantly bestowed upon me during these years.

To my parishioners and friends who have helped me accomplish my priestly works for God's glory and the savings of souls, I also give my sincere thanks.

Msgr. Andrew Koller,
Pastor Emeritus

A Jóságos Isten böséges Áldását kéri hiveire és hálás köszönetet mond szives jóságukért papságának hatvanadik évfordulóján.

Köller Endre,
pápai prelátus

OUR PASTOR

Rev. Desider Hoffmann

Born: Nov. 24, 1901
Ordained: August 8, 1926

Appointed administrator to St. Margaret of Hungary May 24, 1968

Appointed Pastor Sept 4, 1968

My dear Parishioners:

As your Pastor, it gives me great pleasure and a deep sense of humility in celebrating and sharing with you the Golden Jubilee of our parish.

We are enabled to celebrate this 50th Anniversary presently only, because of the many hardships and sacrifices of those clergy and laity, both living and deceased, who built this wonderful edifice.

May it always remain as a fitting monument of the deep faith and proud nationality of our people.

May the spirit of those pioneers always encourage us to continue in the future, God's work of furthering His Kingdom here on earth.

Once again my sincerest congratulations and God's blessings to all of you dear people of St. Margaret of Hungary.

Father Desider Hoffmann

Kedves jó Hiveim!

Mint a hitközségnek plébánosa, nagyon boldog vagyok, hogy mélto vagyok Önnökkel együtt megünnepelni hitközségünk Arany Jubileumát. Nagyon is tudjuk értékelni e hitközség alapíto tagjainak nehéz munkáját úgy a papok, mint a hivek részéröl akár még az élök sorában vannak, vagy pedig már elhunytak az Urban. Ezeknek jár a mi hálánk és köszönetünk. Es ha már elhunytak kérjük a Mindenhatot, hogy jutalmazza meg öket az örök élettel és nyugal ommal.

Jó katolikusok és jó magyarok voltak és föntart toták templomukat és magyar hitközségüket 50 esztendön át. Ez csak erös hit és nagy áldozatok révén volt lehetséges. Kövessük szép példájukat mi is.

E hitközség ötven éves jubileuma alkalmábol, szivem mélyéböl gratulálok kedves hiveimnek és kérem édes mindnyájukra a jo Isten böséges áldását.

Father Hoffmann Dezsö

HISTORY OF ST. MARGARET OF HUNGARY CHURCH

The highest peaks of emigration from Hungary in the early days of the twentieth century brought a great number of immigrants to America. The majority of these Hungarian immigrants were Catholics who settled in a large colony in Cleveland, Ohio. Most came from predominantly agricultural sections of their native land. They tore themselves from their beloved country to better their families economically, fully intending in most cases to return to their homeland after making their fortune and bring their families to live in America. These people worked very hard as unskilled laborers and sent their families a portion of their hard-earned wages.

They wanted to preserve the traditions of their ancient faith while cherishing and promoting a national culture based on the most fundamental principles of Christianity. They also wanted to worship in their own language as in the old country.

On March 24th, 1917, some parishioners of the first Hungarian Roman Catholic Church in the United States namely, St. Elizabeth's Church, which parishioners resided on upper Buckeye Road of Cleveland's east side, met at Muhic Hall located at East 120th and Buckeye Road to organize a Ladies' and Men's Sick Benefit and Death Benefit Lodge. Their purpose in starting this lodge was to found a new church and school in their area.

On June 5th, 1917, Francis Apathy, George Kamfor and Joseph Takacs were elected to ask Bishop John Patrick Farrelly (1909-1922) for permission to start a new parish. Though he saw only hardships and spoke of a shortage of Hungarian priests, he encouraged them.

On May 10th, 1918, permission was granted to purchase 9 lots on a plot of land once the Rice farm and later the site of old Newburgh City Hall which is now named East 116th Street and the site of our present church.

June 4th, 1918 Father Richard P. Roth, assistant at St. Elizabeth's Church, was appointed Administrator of the yet un-named church. As St. Margaret of Hungary was still only in blessed state, until her canonization, the patroness, St. Margaret Mary Alocoque, served under the church name—St. Margaret.

Until building started, parishioners attended holy Mass in the upstairs chapel of the Notre Dame St. Mary Institute Orphanage.

On August 17th, 1919, a procession from E. 120th Street & Buckeye Rd., by the ardent supporters of the newly found parish to the chapel of St. Mary's at East Boulevard and Buckeye Rd.; (now St. Andrew's Abbey of the Benedictines) preceded the celebration of the first Mass for the new parish by Father Richard P. Roth in observance of the feast of St. Stephen. The newly acquired St. Stephen flag was blessed and Mr. and Mrs. Csizmadia were godparents.

Father Roth said Mass on Sundays and Holydays as administrative Pastor from that time with the records being kept at St. Elizabeth Church until 1922. From that time on Father Roth and the new parishioners worked very hard on the building fund campaign. Affairs were held at Butas' Hall. The first harvest festival was held there on October 12, 1919. For approximately three years Father Roth and his faithful labored. He was then transferred to St. Boniface Church and Father Ernest Rickert, educated in Hungary and St. Paul, Minnesota, was appointed first pastor of St. Margaret Church in December, 1921.

Our Lady of Peace Church offered its facilities to Bishop Louis Shwoy of Hungary and Professor Michael Marczell of St. Emery College who conducted a mission for the benefit of the new future church in May, 1922. Donations received from this mission were deposited in a large soup kettle which was carried to the home of one of the councilmen of St. Margaret. For a time Father Rickert lived at St. Elizabeth's rectory and masses were held in the chapel of the orphanage during the construction of the church (a wooden building) and a small frame hall for recreation use. These structures were built in 1922.

On June 28th, 1924 Bishop Stephen Zadravec confirmed 375 people, the largest confirmation group in our parish history. Concluding a two week mission during that same time, the Bishop blessed two bells for the small steeple of our wooden church. The bells were named Elizabeth and Emeric.

The first councilmen were Joseph Petro, Albert Kormendy, Imre Kocsis, John Albert and George Kamfor. The new little church received pews, altars, some statues and a holy water font from St. Elizabeth Church.

The first rectory was located on East 117th Street to the rear of the church.

The first baptism recorded for the parish was that of William Adelbert Fazekas, born October 5th, 1919, and baptised February 29th, 1920 by Reverend Richard Roth.

The first marriage: Ladislaus Jakubecz and Margaret Kamenar, May 22nd, 1922 by Rev. Ernest Rickert.

The first burial: John Horvath, March 16, 1922, Calvary Cemetery. Rev. Ernest Rickert.

The Social Mission Sisters of the Holy Ghost Sisters Stefania, Hildegarde and Judith taught

catechism in 1922 and by 1925 six hundred children had been under the guidance and instruction of these sisters.

Imre Kish taught the Hungarian Language to the children and he later became choir director and organist.

In approximately 1924, the Usher's Club was organized for the purpose of having parish men usher at the Masses and parish sponsored events. Some early minutes dated May 7, 1934 indicated John Kozsey, president and Edward Kocsis, secretary. The last records available for this organization are dated November 6, 1939.

MID-HISTORY — Period of Expansion

The appointment of Reverend Andrew Koller on July 28th, 1927 as Pastor of St. Margaret Parish ushered in an era of expansion. Father Koller had just completed the new school, convent and rectory as Pastor of St. Ladislaus Church in Lorain, Ohio.

On August 12th, 1927, Father Andrew Koller arrived at St. Margaret's Church and found a used building that served as a recreation hall, an old rectory in need of much repair and a small wooden church which had become too small to accommodate the rapidly growing parish. About one year later, the ceiling of the church fell and fortunately no one was hurt.

The following explains the title "Miracle Man" given to Monsignor Andrew Koller as pastor of St. Margaret's Church.

1928 Present church and school building was started with a loan of $150,000.00. In order to finish the church and school, an additional loan of $50,000.00 was applied for and granted. Another $10,000.00 was still needed to complete the building and furnishings and again the bank granted the loan.

Simultaneously, the convent and parish house were renovated. Each of these structures had to be purchased and remodeled at a cost of $22,000.00 each. Therefor the final construction cost was $209,000.00.

Then came the hard depression days and only $12,000.00 was paid as interest on the principle. As the depression became deeper we were unable to make any payments on the principal debt.

When settlement by successors of the bank approached, the capital debt and interest had grown to $279,000.00. However, through some miracle Monsignor Koller was able to make a final settlement of the principal and interest for $130,000.00. The mortgage burning took place in 1946.

1930 July, the new church and school were temporarily blessed by Father James McFadden.

July 8, the first marriage in the new church, Michael Stumph and Marie Cher.

August 4, the first funeral Mass in the new church, Mrs. Julia Thomas who worked very hard for the building fund.

October 26th, solemn dedication by Joseph Schrembs, Bishop of Cleveland.

1934 November 12th, pope Pius XI conferred the rank of Domestic Prelate upon Father Koller with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor Andrew Koller.

Monsignor Koller has served as Diocesan Consultor since 1936. He has served on the Committee for the Relocation of Hungarian Refugees.

1935 Sunday, June 30th, the solemn observance of the Silver Jubilee of the ordination of Monsignor Andrew Koller. A program was presented at the Moreland Theater by the school children and the parish officers.

The welfare of the children was foremost to Monsignor Koller and he derived much enjoyment from their various performances throughout the years.

1946 February 17th, the Mortgage Burning Banquet was held in the church hall.

1953 The present parish house was built at a cost of $130,000.00 with the help of God and the sacrifices of our good parishioners.

Monsignor Koller took the lead in protesting the imprisonment of Catholic and Protestant churchmen in Hungary and aided in resettling hundreds of refugees from that country.

1957 Pope Pius XII sent a special Bulla officially conferring the present patroness, St. Margaret of Hungary.

1960 The church was redecorated and the new picture, St. Margaret of Hungary, painted by parishioner Joseph Csebi Gaal was set into the central frame above the main altar.

June 26th-29th, official celebration of the Ordination of Monsignor Andrew Koller.

1965 January 15th, after fifty-five years of faithful performance of his priestly duties, at the age of seventy-six, Monsignor Koller became Pastor Emeritus of St. Margaret of Hungary Roman Catholic Church.

A banquet in appreciation of all the good work of Monsignor Andrew Koller coupled with a welcome to the new pastor, Father John Mundweil, was held on March 7th, 1965. A plaque as a permanent tribute to Monsignor Koller was unveiled and mounted in the church vestibule.

Father John Mundweil, upon becoming pastor of St. Margaret of Hungary Church, initiated plans for the celebration of the Fiftieth Jubilee of St. Margaret Parish's founding, the Sixtieth Anniversary of the ordination of Monsignor Andrew Koller and the Fortieth Anniversary of the ordination of Father Mundweil all to be observed in 1970.

During Father John Mundweil's pastorate, he organized the school orchestra as he had previously done when he was assistant to Monsignor Koller many years ago. Music was a great love of his as illustrated by the fact that he enjoyed playing the church organ for the 12:00 o'clock Mass on Sundays. Through his efforts new light fixtures for the church were installed.

Father Mundweil was unable to complete his plans and dreams at St. Margaret. Almighty God saw fit to call him from this life on May 22nd, 1968 after an illness of brief duration.

Father Desider Hoffmann was installed as Pastor of St. Margaret of Hungary Church on September 4th, 1968, by Right Reverend Monsignor Charles W. McDonough V.F., Dean, Cuyahoga County Southeast Deanery. Father Hoffmann came to St. Margaret Church from Nativity B.V.M. in early 1968 to become assistant to Father John Mundweil. Upon Father Mundweil's death, May 22nd, 1968, Most Reverend Clarence G. Issenman, S.T.D., Bishop of Cleveland, appointed Father Hoffmann Administrator of St. Margaret of Hungary Parish.

Father Desider Hoffmann's new assignment as pastor was an arduous one. He has replaced the furnace in the church and school building, repaired the recently installed lights of the church and is now in the process of constructing a parking lot on the parish property. The old rectory and garage have already been razed for the additional space needed and the surfacing is still to be done.

ST. MARGARET SCHOOL

A vital segment of St. Margaret's Church is the school which forms the arms of the cross in the design of the combination church and school building. The two story school has twelve classrooms. Some of these classrooms in later years serve as a library, visual aid room and office.

In 1930, Monsignor Andrew Koller entrusted the education of his children enrolled in the new school to the congregation of the Daughters of the Divine Redeemer. These Sisters who now teach in Barberton, Lorain and Fairport Harbor, all in Ohio, and who formerly taught at St. Elizabeth School (now razed) and St. Emeric in Cleveland, Ohio, were brought here by Mother M. Sabina to staff the school. Sister M. Theresa was the first principal of St. Margaret School. Ten classrooms were opened the first year but within three years all twelve were bulging at the seams The school rapidly grew to be one of the most outstanding in the diocese. In 1948, St. Margaret was designated as a coordinating school for student teachers of St. John's College. For more than fifteen years the school maintained a kindergarten until 1960, one of the few in the diocese.

Over two thousand students have graduated from St. Margaret School to various walks of life.

ADDENDA

Unsung people have given uncalculable time and energy for their church and parish. Their diligent prayers have brought them through hard times.

The fifty year record of vital statistics reads as follows:

Baptisms	4,554
First Holy Communions	4,126
Confirmations	3,565
Marriages	2,036
Deaths	2,690

The "Old Girls," who were the young wives and mothers in the early days, and some of their husbands, are still holding fast as the center of a strong cloth as they faithfully attend daily Mass, continuing their prayers and good works.

Foremost in the culture of these original members and those that followed was the golden thread of the fine pastries and wholesome food served to their members coupled with silver thread of choir music. Together, these threads attracted, supported and held firm the fabric of the parish. Not the least of this strength was the leadership of the good pastors and their assistants who preached in the mother tongue.

The annual Harvest Festivals reunite the young and the old, the near and far, who at one time or another had or still have affiliation with the parish of St. Margaret of Hungary.

Through shifting times and families, St. Margaret of Hungary Parish still exists, a house of God, a channel for blessings and a community of believers.

A RÓMAI KATOLIKUS MAGYARORSZÁGI SZENT MARGIT EGYHÁZKÖZSÉG

ALAKULÁS:

A huszadik századforduló első napjaiban volt legnépesebb a Magyarországról való bevándorlás és ezekben a napokbanban sok bevándorló érkezett Amerikába. Ezeknek a bevándorló magyaroknak nagyrésze katolikus volt és az ohioi Clevelandban nagy településeket hoztak létre. nagyszámban érkeztek Magyarország mezőgazdasági életéből. Elszakadtak szeretett szülöföldjüktől, hazájuktól, hogy családjuk anyagi helyzetét javitsák, csak keresni akartak Amerikában és még ha ki is hozatták családjaikat maguk után, az volt a szándékuk, hogy amint összehozták azt a pénzt, amire szükségük volt, vsszatérnek hazájukba. Ezek az emberek keményen megdolgoztak jövedelmükért, mint szakmanélküli munkások kaptak alkalmazást, és nehéz munkával szerzett fizetésük egyrészét haza is küldötték azonnal családjaiknak, ha a család még otthon volt.

Büszkék voltak hagyományaikra és meg akarták őrizni az őseiktől örökölt vallást, ápolták az idegenben is nemzeti kulturájuk, amelynek alapjai a kereszténység tanitásain épültek . Az Istent is anyanyelvükön akarták imádni, pontosan ugy, mint hazájukban tették.

Amerikában a első magyar, római katolikus egyházközség a Szent Erzsébet volt. Ennek az első magyar egyházközségnek több tagja Cleveland keletoldalán, a felső Buckeye Roadon élt. Ezek 1917 március 24-én összejöttek a Music Hallban—amely a Buckeye Road és a 120. utca sarkán állt—hogy testvérsegitő szervezetet alapitsanak, a **Férfiak és Nők Betegsegélyző és Életbiztositó Egyletét** (Ladies' and Men's Sick Benefit and Death Benefit Society). De már ennek a testvérsegitő szervezetnek a megalakulásával tulajdonképen egy távoli cél megvalósitását készitették elő, szándékuk volt ezen a területen egy uj templomot és iskolát épiteni.

1917 június 5-én az Egylet delegációt választ, hogy az keresse fel a clevelandi püspököt, John Patrick Farrellyt (1909-1921) és kérjen engedélyt a templom és egyházközség-létesitő munka megkezdésére. A három választott Apáthy Ferenc, Kámfor György és Takács József volt. Habár a püspök jól látta és ismertette is előttük a nehézségeket, különösen kiemelte, hogy nincsen elegendő magyar lelkipásztora, mégis bátoritotta őket, hogy kezdjék meg munkájukat.

1918 május 10-én engedélyt kaptak arra, hogy megfelelő területet (kilenc "lot"-ot) vásároljanak ebből a célból. A vásárolt terület a Rice farmból való volt, amely később az öreg Newburgh City Hall (városháza) szomszédsága, ma a keletoldali 116. utca, a mai templom helye.

1918 junius 4-én Ft. Roth P. Richárd, a Szent Erzsébet Egyházközség káplánja nyert kinevezést, hogy legyen a még név nélküli egyházközség káplánja. Mivel ebben a időben IV. Béla király leánya Árpádházi Margit még csak boldog Margit volt, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque nevéről nevezték el az uj egyházközséget Szent Margit Egyházközségnek.

Amig az épitkezést megkezdhették, a hivők a Notre Dame St. Mary Institute Ohphanage (árvaház) emeleti kápolnájában vettek részt szentmisén.

1919 augusztus 17-én körmenet indult a keletoldali 120. utcától, amelyben az ujonnan alapitott egyházközség lelkes hivei vonultak a St. Mary Kápolnába az East Boulevard és a Buckeye Road sarkára (ahol ma a bencés Szent András apátság áll), hogy a Father Roth P. Richárd által mondott szentmisén résztvegyenek. Ez volt a uj egyházközség első szentmiséje, amelyen az új Sent István zászlót is felszentelték. Zászlóapa és zászlóanya Mr. és Mrs. Czizmadia voltak.

Ettől kezdve minden vasárnap és ünnepnap Ft. Roth mondotta a szentmisét, mig az egyház könyveit a Szent Erzsébet egyházközségnél tartották és vezették egészen 1922-ig. Ez alatt az idő alatt Ft. Roth és az uj egyházközség hivei igen buzgón dolgoztak azon, hogy az épitési alapot összehozzák. A templomépitési alapot előmozditó rendezéseket a Buta Hallban bonyolitották le. Az első szüreti mulatságot erre a célra 1919 október 12-én rendezték. Körülbelül három évig vezette ezt a kampányt Ft. Roth, aztán áthelyez-

ték a St. Boniface egyházközséghez. 1921-ben nevezték ki a Szent Margit egyházközség első plébánosát, Ft. Rickert Ernőt, aki papi tanulmányait Magyarországon kezdte és Amerikában St. Paulban (Minnesota állam) végezte.

1922 májusában Shwoy Lajos püspök és Marczell Mihály, a pesti Szent Imre Kollégium igazgatója jöttek Magyarországról Clevelandba, hogy missziót tartsanak az uj egyházközség javára. A helységeket a Our Lady of Peace egyházközség bocsátotta rendelkezésre. A misszión begyült adományokat egy kondérban vitték az egyik tanácstag lakására. Ebben az időben Ft. Rickert még mindig a Szent Erzsébet plébániáján lakott s a miséket még mindig az árvaházban tartották, mig készült a templom faépülete és egy gyülésterem társadalmi célokra. Ez a két épület 1922-re lett készen.

1924-ben junius 28-án Zadravetz István püspök bérmált a Szent Margit egyházközségben. 375 bérmálkozó jelentkezett, azóta sem bérmálkozott ilyen népes csoport az egyházközségben. Két heti misszíót is tartott Zadravetz István püspök és a misszió végén megáldotta a fatemplom két harangját. A harangokat Szent Erzsébetről és Szent Imréről nevezték el.

A új egyházközség első tanácstagjai voltak: Petró József, Körmendy Albert és Kámfor György. Az uj egyházközség templomi padokat, oltárokat, néhány szobrot, keresztelő medencét a Szent Erzsébet egyházközségtől kapott.

Az első plébánia a fatemplom mögött helyezkedett el és a 117. utcára nyilt.

Az első keresztelőn, amint feljegyezték, Fazekas Béla Albertet keresztelték, aki 1919 október 5-én született és 1920 február 29-én keresztelte Ft. Roth.

Az első bejegyzett házasságkötés Jakubecz László és Kamenár Margit között történt 1922 május 22-én, kötötte Ft. Rickert Ernő.

Elsőnek Horváth Jánost temették 1922 március 16-án. Temette Ft. Rickert Ernő a Kálvária temetőben.

A uj egyházközséghez tartozó gyermekeket Tisztelendő Stefánia, Hildegard és Judit nővérek tanitották (Social Mission Sisters of the Holy Ghost) katektizmusra. Hatszáz gyerek járt a nővérek hitoktatására.

Magyar nyelvet az iskolásoknak Kish Imre tanitott, aki később az egyházközség kántora és orgonistája is lett.

1924-ben szervezték meg a Rendezők Klubját (Ushers' Club). A cél az volt, hogy az egyházközség fiatal férfiait bekapcsolják a miséken való szolgálatba és az egyházközség társadalmi eseményeinek a rendezésébe. A korai jegyzőkönyvek-1934 május 7—elmondják, hogy Kozsey János volt a Rendezők Klubjának az elnöke és Kocsis Ede volt a titkára. A Klub jegyzőkönyvei még az 1939 november 6.-i ülésről is beszámolnak.

A TERJESZKEDÉS

Amikor 1927 julius 28-án a Szent Margit egyházközség plébánosává kinevezték Ft. Köller Endrét, ez a kinevezés már az annyira szükséges terjeszkedés korszakát nyitotta meg. Ft. Köller Endre éppen akkor fejezte be Lorainban a magyar Szent László egyházközség uj iskoláját, zárdáját és plébániáját. Ft. Köller Endre ugyanis kinevezése előtt a loraini Szent László egyházközség plébános volt.

1927 augusztus 12-én Ft. Köller Endre átveszi a Szent Margit egyházközség gondozását. Egy erősen használt hallt vesz át, amely a társadalmi rendezmények céljait szolgálja. A plébánia is sok-sok javitást igényel. A kis fatemplomot már régen kinőtte a egyházközség, amely rohamosan fejlődik és nem fér el a templomban. Egy év mulva a templom menyezete be is omlik, szerencse, hogy senki sem sérül meg.

Ft. Köller Endrét később csodaembernek nevezik el a Szent Margit egyházközségben. Ime az eredmények, amelyek ezt az elnevezést indokolttá teszik:

1928. Megkezdődik a jelenlegi templom és iskola épitése. A munka megkezdéséhez az egyházközség 150 ezer dollár kölcsönt vesz fel. Hogy az épitkezést be tudják fejezni, utóbb még 50 ezer dollárt kell kölcsönként felvenni, majd még 10 ezer dollárt. Az egyházközség a banktól mindhárom kölcsönt megkapja.

Ezzel egyidejüleg a zárdát és a plé-

bániát renoválják. Mindegyik ujjáépitésének az ára 22 ezer dollár. Ezzel az épitkezések összege 209 ezer dollára megy fel.

Ezután beköszönt a depresszió nehéz korszaka és az egyházközség mindössze 12,000.00 dollárt tud fizetni — tőkére és kamatra. Amint a depresszió sulyosabbá válik, az egyházközség képtelen bármi fizetésre is, nem tud sem kamatot sem tőkét törleszteni.

Amikor a bank utódai tárgyalásra jelentkeznek, a tőke és kamat tartozás felszökött 279,000.00 dollárra. Azonban a "csodaember", Ft. Köller Endre, a lefolytatott tárgyalások után kiegyezik a hitelező bank utódaival, hogy 130 ezer dollárral mindent kifizet, kamatot és tőketartozást. Mindent. A jelzálog levelet 1946-ban égetik el, akkorra a Szent Margit egyházközség kifizeti minden adóságát.

1930. A templomot és az iskolát ideiglenesen megáldja Ft. James McFadden.

Az első házasságkötés a uj templomban: Kötötték Stumph Mihály és Cser Mária.

Az első temetés, gyászmise a templomban, Mrs. Tamás Julie temetése, aki buzgón dolgozott a templomépitési alapért.

Végül október 26-án Cleveland püspöke Joseph Schrembs felszenteli az uj templomot.

1934. IX. Pius pápa prelátussá nevezi ki Ft. Köller Endrét, a Szent Margit egyházközség plébánosát.

Monsignor Köller 1936-tól kezdve egyházmegyei tanácsos. Tagja a Magyar Menekülteket Elhelyező Bizottságnak (Committee for the Relocation of Hungarian Refugees).

1935. Junius 30-án, vasárnap ünnepi megemlékezés Msgr. Köller Endre papi huszonötéves jubileumáról. A müsort az iskolásgyermekek és az egyházközségi vezetők rendezték a Moreland Szinházban.

Msgr. Köllernek nagy gyönyörűsége tellett a gyermekek örömében és sikeres szereplésében.

1946. Február 17-én, miután kifizették az adóságot, ünnepélyesen, diszebéden elégetik a jelzáloglevelet.

1953. A jelenlegi plébániaépület elkészül. Ez 130 ezer dollár kiadást jelent, amelyet a hivők adományaiból és felajánlásából fizetnek ki.

Msgr Köller vezeti a tiltakozást az ellen, hogy katolikus és protestáns egyházi férfiakat bebörtönöznek Magyarországon. Msgr. Köller a Magyarországról menekülők százait segiti és telepiti le Clevelandban.

1957. XII. Pius pápa külön bullában küld értesitést arról, hogy az egyházközség patronáját Boldog Margitot szentté avatták Rómában.

1960. A templomot ujból diszitik, elkészül az uj oltárkép, amely Magyarországi Szent Margitot ábrázolja, az oltárkép alkotója az egyházközség egyik hive: Csébi Gál József festőmüvész. Az oltárképet elhelyezik az oltár felett.

Junius 26-29: Msgr. Köller Endre pappá szentelésének arany jubileuma és annak megünneplése az egyházközségben.

1965. Ötvenöt évi hüséges és eredményes szolgálat után, január 15-én 76 éves korában Msgr. Köller Endre a Magyarországi Szent Margit egyházközség érdemes (emeritus) plébános lesz.

Ennek megünneplésére, valamint az uj plébános, Ft. Mundweil János köszöntésére március 7-én diszebédet rendez az egyházközség. A hála emlékéül a templom előcsarnokában leleplezik Msgr. Köller Endre domborképét.

Ft. Mundweil János plébános, amint kinevezését megkapta, nekiállt az egyházközség jövőjére vonatkozó tervek kidolgozásának. Amint már előbb, káplán korában is tette, most is iskolazenekar szervezéséhez kezd. A zene volt igazi kedvtelése, amint legjobban illusztrált az a tény, hogy vasárnap a 12 órakor kezdődő szentmisén maga játszott az orgonán. A templom világitását kicseréltette.

Sajnos, Ft. Munweil János nem valósithatta meg terveit és álmait, amelyek-

kel meg akarta ujitani a Szent Margit egyházközséget, mert a Mindenható ugy látta jónak, hogy magához vegye 1968 május 22-én sulyos betegség után.

Ft. Hoffman Dezső plébánost 1968 szeptember 4-én iktatták be a Magyarországi Szent Margit egyházközség plébániájába. Főtisztelendő Msgr. Charles W. McDonough V.F. esperes, Cuyahoga megye délkeleti esperesi kedületének vezetője végezte a szertartást. Ft. Hoffman Dezső a Nativity B.V.M. egyházközségtől jött a Szent Margit egyházközséghez mint Ft. Mundweil János káplánja. Ft. Mundweil plébános halála után Cleveland püspöke Clarence G. Issenman S.T.D. 1968 május 22-én nevezte ki a Szent Margit adminisztrátorává.

Ft. Hoffman Dezső nagy buzgalommal látott munkájához. Modernzálta a templom világitását, és most az egyházközség ingatlanán készittet parkoló helyet. Ebből a célból lebontatta a régi plébánia épületét a garázzsal együtt. A parkolóhely aszfaltozása most van folyamatban.

A SZENT MARGIT ISKOLA

A Szent Margit egyházközség létfontosságú, szerves része az iskola, amelynek az épülete egybeépült a templommal. Az emeletes iskolaépületben 12 tanterem várja a tanulókat. Egy-egy tanterem szolgál könyvtárként, szertárként valamint irodaként.

1930-ban Msgr. Köller Endre az iskolás gyermekek nevelését rábizta az Isteni Megváltó Leányainak a rendjére (Daughter of the Divine Redeemer). A jó nővérek, akik ma Barbertonban, Lorainban, Fairport Harbourban, végig Ohióban oktatnak a magyar plebániák iskoláiban, tanitottak korábban a Szent Erzsébet iskolájában is, most már lebontották, valamint a clevelandi Szent Imre egyházközség iskolájában. Előbb M. Sabina anya jött ide, a szent Margithoz, hogy az iskola vezetését átvegye. M. Teréza nővér volt az iskola első igazgatója. Tiz tanteremmel nyilt meg az iskola az első évben, de három év mulva mind a tizenkét tanterem zsufolásig megtelt. Az iskola hamarosan az egyházmegye legjobb iskolájává nőtte ki magát.. 1948-ban a Szent Margit egyházközség iskoláját jelölte ki a St. John College mint a tanitójelöltek mintaiskoláját, ahol a próbatanitást végzik. Tizenöt évig, egészen 1960-ig a Szent Margit iskola ovódát tartott fenn, egyikét az egyházmegye kevés ovódáinak.

Az élet különböző pályáira a Szent Margit iskolából több mint kétezer ifju leány és fiu indult.

ADALÉK

Férfiak és asszonyok, akiknek a nevét nem jegyezték fel, számolatlanul áldozták idejüket és energiájukat egyházukért és egyházközségükért. Ezenkivül forró imáikkal is segitették az egyházközséget a nehéz próbákon.

Az ötven év feljegyzéseiből felirjuk ide a statisztikánkat:

A Szent Margit Egyházközségben ötven év alatt

4254 keresztelő volt,
4126 első áldozás,
3162 bérmálás,
2036 házasságkötés,
2690 temetés.

Az öreg nénikék, akik akkoriban ifju feleségek és fiatal anyák voltak és férjeik ma még mindig központját alkotják az egyházközségnek hüséges, napi misehallgatók, folytatják a jó munkát és jó imáikat.

Az eredeti tagok szolgálták az egyházközséget finom süteményeikkel, a jó ételekkel, amit örömmel és szivesen szolgáltak fel egyházközségbeli társaikkal, énekkari énekükkel és zenével. Ezek a munkák segitettek abban, hogy az egyházközség társadalma szoros vonzásban együttmaradt és kitartott az egyházközség munkájában. Persze elsősorban kellett ehhez a mindenkori plébánosnak, káplánjainak, akik az egyházközségi magyarok anyanyelvét beszélték, áldott vezetése.

Az évi szüreti mulatság ujból összegyüjti a fiatalokat és öregeket, a közelieket és a távoliakat, akiknek egykor volt vagy még ma is van kapcsolatuk az egyházközséggel.

A változó időkön áthaladva, változó családokon át folytatódva is létezik a Szent Margit egyházközség, Isten háza, a kegyelem csatornája és a hivők közössége.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of our beloved Pastor Father John B. Mundweil. He urged us to plan to make 1970 a year of great jubilation and thanksgiving . . . It was his thought to have a Golden Jubilee Program Book . . . and the committee, always mindful of his wish, made an extra effort to produce a beautiful Book.

† † †

Accardi, Rosario, Vita, Phillip and Rose
Albert, Barbara
Albek, John
Bajczer, Anna
Barabas, Zolton
Bartko, Stephen S.
Berente, Tibor J.
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Chuhay, John and Zolton
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Eles, Elizabeth
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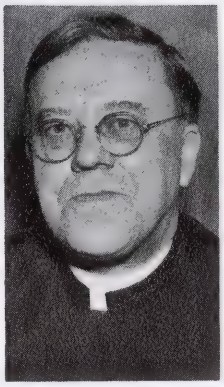
Vasko, Vincent Sr.
Vass, Gaza
Vendely, Andrew
Veres, Julia
Vishey, Joseph
Vojtko, Julia
William, George H.
Yantko, Emery

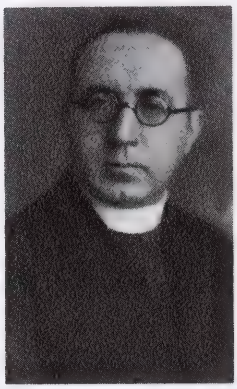
† † †

In loving memory of all our men and women who made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the armed forces of our country. They will always be remembered with honor and reverence by all St. Margaret of Hungary Parishioners.

OUR PASTORS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS



REV. RICHARD ROTH
First Administrator of the parish



REV. ERNEST RICKERT
Formation of parish to Aug. 12, 1927

RT. REV. MSGR. ANDREW KOLLER
Aug. 12, 1927 to Jan. 21, 1965

REV. JOHN B. MUNDWEIL
Jan. 21, 1965 to Sept. 4, 1968

REV. DESIDER HOFFMANN
Appointed Administrator May 24, 1968 and Pastor Sept. 4, 1968

ASSISTANTS

REV. EDMOND F. NEURIHRER
Oct. 1923 to Sept. 1924

REV. JOSEPH PETER
July 14, 1926

REV. JOHN B. MUNDWEIL
July 23, 1930 to Oct. 10, 1934

REV. FRANCIS J. DENKA
July 12, 1934 to June 18, 1941

REV. LEONARD T. GERITY
October 19, 1934

REV. JOSEPH P. CONLON
May 13, 1935 to June 18, 1937

REV. JULIUS VIGLAS
June 18, 1937 to Aug. 17, 1939

REV. EDWARD J. SEWARD
August 17, 1939

REV. FRANCIS KARPI
June 18, 1941 to March 18, 1943

REV. JOSEPH S. MAGYAR
March 14, 1942 to April 19, 1949

REV. ALOYSIUS BARTKO
Mar. 18, 1943 to May 15, 1951

REV. CHARLES BYRIDER
April 19, 1949 to Jan. 3, 1950

REV. JOSEPH S. MAGYAR
May 15, 1951 to Jan. 7, 1954

REV. JOSEPH GODINA
Jan. 7, 1954 to Sept. 14, 1961

REV. ALEX DEMETZKY
Jan. 7, 1954 to June 13, 1963

REV. BALTHASAR KOCZAN
Sept. 14, 1961 to June 11, 1964

REV. JOSEPH VARGA
June 13, 1963 to March 12, 1968

REV. JOHN F. BUZA
June 11, 1964 to Oct. 28, 1965

REV. LADISLAUS ROSKO
Oct. 28, 1965

REV. DESIDER HOFFMANN
Mar. 12, 1968 to May 24, 1968

REV. LADISLAUS ROSKO
Ordained Aug. 24, 1952
Appointed Assistant Oct. 18, 1965

PICTURES OF OUR CHURCH

The Wooden Church

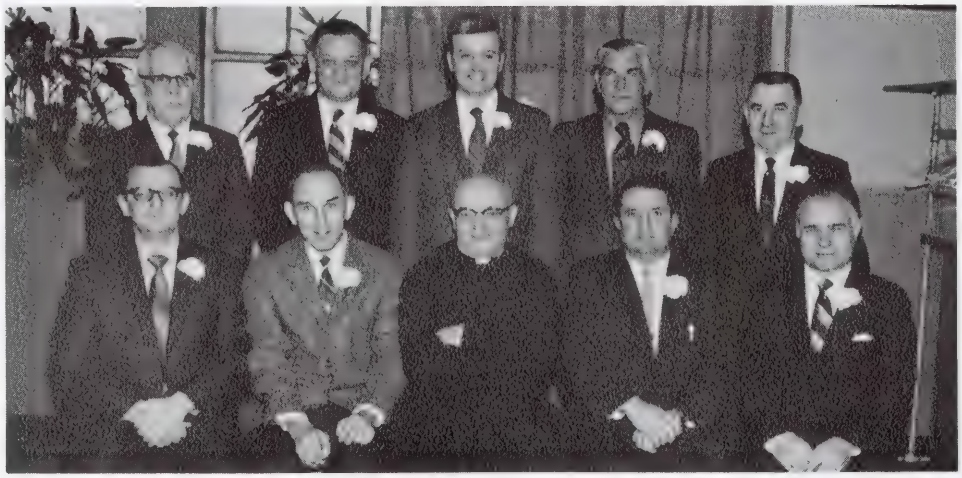
St. Margaret Church at Dedication

Present Day Church and School

COUNCILMEN OF OUR PARISH

Councilmen of the first 25 years of our Parish

Councilmen of the first 2 years of our Parish



Councilmen at the 50th Anniversary Celebration

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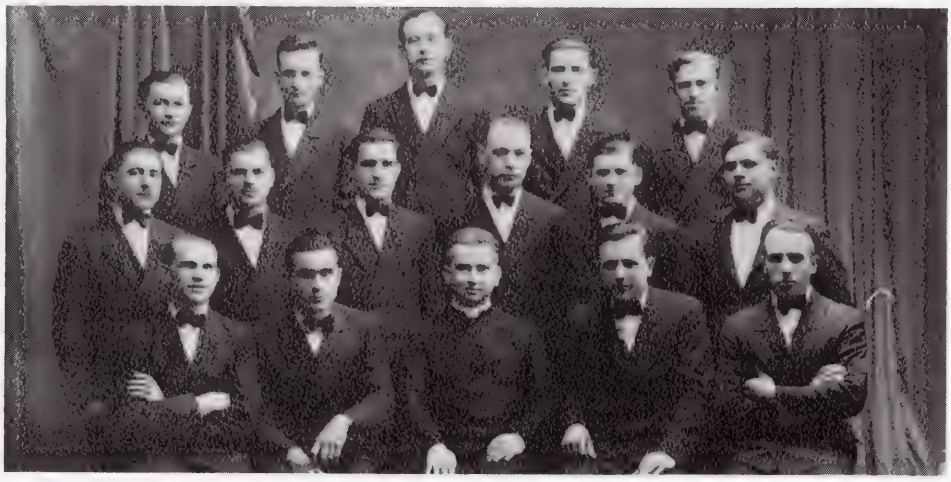

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In Loving Memory of Our Parents
Andrew and Anna Biro
and Our Sister Clara Colnia,
By Their Children and
Her Sister and Brother

CONGRATULATIONS on the GOLDEN JUBILEE OF OUR PARISH

ST. MARGARET HOLY NAME SOCIETY
Organized 1930

On this historical and happy Anniversary of Our Church, I've taken this opportunity to place this ad in Loving Memory of my beloved parents, John and Susan Hovancsek, by their youngest son, Julius

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In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH and THERESA KOPCSO

"FROM THE FIELD OF SPORTS . . . "

We at St. Margaret of Hungary Church are a people who love sports. We lacked the physical property, such as a gymnasium and baseball field, but we sponsored many youthful activities that developed our boys into better Catholic men.

We just have space here to skim over a few highlights that brought to our parishioners excitement, cheers and joy — and with a loss, some temporary heartache.

In the early 1930's, the Holy Name Society sponsored a six-team softball league that played its games at Woodhill Park. Local business people purchased the jerseys for the players. During that period the Society officers were George Olonyik, Joe Voltar and Charles Galombos.

In 1933, the St. Margaret Ushers Club baseball team won the title and a silver trophy which is still displayed in the Men's Club Room to this day. Although it is tarnished with age — it remains a treasured prize. The engraving has the following names: A. Takacs, mgr.; J. Szabo, capt.. E. Bortetics, J. Laczko, E. Kocsis, A. Sulik, P. Knoll, J. Kozsey, S. Kaplar, G. Stumpf, J. Kalman, F. Katonka, S. Sonokey and M. Kristof.

Through the efforts of Father Aloysius Bartko and with Msgr. Koller's approval, the sport of boxing came to our Parish in 1943. It was too late to prepare for the CYO Hi-Chair Tournament that year — but Joseph Mekker was still tough enough to win the East Side Championship.

The next year, with Andrew Csotty helping Boxing Coach Ben Kresnye, a boxing ring was built on the Hall Stage and a heavy punching bag was suspended from the Hall ceiling. Under the intensive teaching and training of Kresnye, our boxing team compiled this amazing record in 1944 — City Champs . . . Larry Casey, Robert Spisak, Ernest Tench and Edward Urbancik; East Side Champ . . . George Kinkopf; Runners-up . . . Domonic Cro, Leonard Mudri, Michael Toth and Richard Krejsa.

Later, older boys came to the "gym" and Kresnye developed amateur boxers who fought successfully in the Golden Gloves and in college.

The Year 1960 was a Banner Year as our St. Margaret lightweight football team went all the way to become the City CYO Champs by defeating Incarnate Word Academy 18 to 0. The game was played at the "Midget Bowl" at the Euclid High Stadium on Sunday, November 20.

We congratulate the entire team, their parents and the excellent coaching staff that included John Lanza, as head coach, and Chuck Rozanski and Clell McIntosh as assistants, for bringing this honor to our Parish.

Many of our boys went on to play in high school and college athletics. We wish to mention briefly the outstanding success of two brothers — both graduates and former athletes of our school. Larry Kaminski played football and basketball here in the late 1950's and then went on to star at Cathedral Latin and Purdue University where he was named on the All Big Ten Honorary Team as center. He is now playing center for the Denver Broncos in the American Pro Football League.

His brother Mike was a member of our 1960 Champ Football Team. Like his brother, he played at Latin and he is now a junior at Northwestern University where he plays defensive tackle on the grid squad.

In the southwest corner of our Church Hall is a trophy case — and with each one of these beautiful creations is a thrilling story. Many of you may recall the hard-fought and thrilling contests that brought these cherished awards to our Parish.

Take time to study the array of trophies and you will realize that this is the combined effort of young athletes, dedicated volunteer coaches and with energetic support from our clergy, the parents and parishioners.

You can flash-back to stirring action-packed football games, the fast-moving thrills the basketball courts, the tingling ring of the bat as a home run cheers the crowd on the baseball field and the toe-to-toe slugfest as our fighters make an outstanding record in boxing.

For some 35 years, we have had a St. Margaret Bowling League that played its games at the old Colony Lanes which are now Dorner's Corner, owned and operated by one of our active parishioners. Hundreds of our men have participated in this League. It's success has been the careful work done by Steve Jozsa, who has been the secretary for many years

Another sport that attracted many of our men are the Sunday morning Golf Tournaments. Since 1957 the Men's Club and later, the Holy Name Society sponsored Golf Tournaments. Members and their friends were invited to play and many prizes were awarded and refreshments were served when the tourney ended. John Dugovics, Sr. was the organizer and spark of these golf tournaments. They provided our Parish men with many hours of healthful competitive sport.

" . . . FROM THE FIELD OF SPORTS"

1956 C.Y.O. Baseball Co-Champions

1933 Usher's Club Baseball Team

1960 City C.Y.O. Football Champs

CONGRATULATIONS

and

Best Wishes

to the

Clergy, Religious and Faithful

of

ST. MARGARET OF HUNGARY CHURCH

on the celebration of their

50th ANNIVERSARY

and

To Our Beloved Pastor Emeritus

RT. REV. MSGR. ANDREW KOLLER

on the celebration

of his

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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Benjock — Mr. and Mrs. George Szeles

CONGRATULATIONS

We are pleased to help celebrate St. Margaret's Golden Jubilee because we feel that we have been partners with the parish since its beginning.

We have watched its growth and have been close to many of the parishioners for we, too, have served the Buckeye Road Community for over 50 years.

We are proud of St. Margaret's and our partnership!

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Oganized 1931

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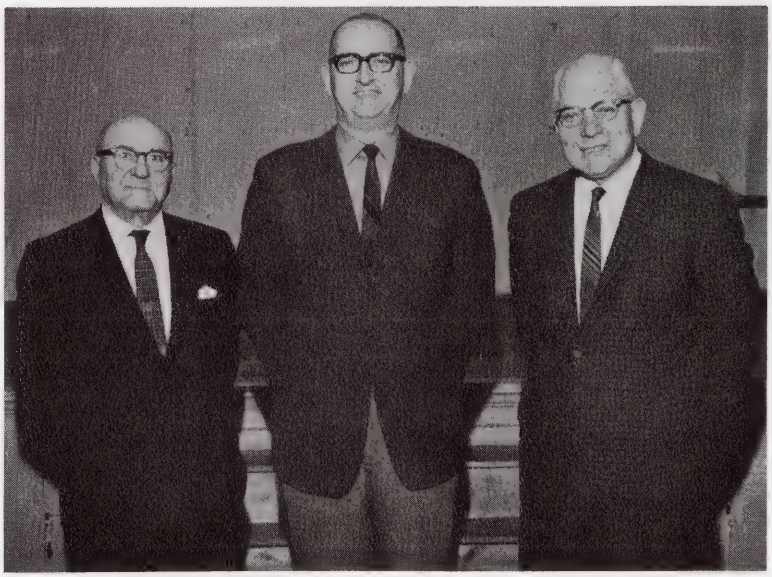

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G. Olonik, ***Visitation Committee***

Congratulations on the Golden Jubilee of Our Parish

Sincere Greetings to our Msgr. Andrew Koller on the 60th Anniversary of his Ordination

ST. MARGARET OF HUNGARY PARENT-TEACHER UNIT

Best Wishes on Our Parish Golden Jubilee

St. Margaret of Hungary
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Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of Our Parish

St. Margaret of Hungary
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jövöre.

Mr. & Mrs.

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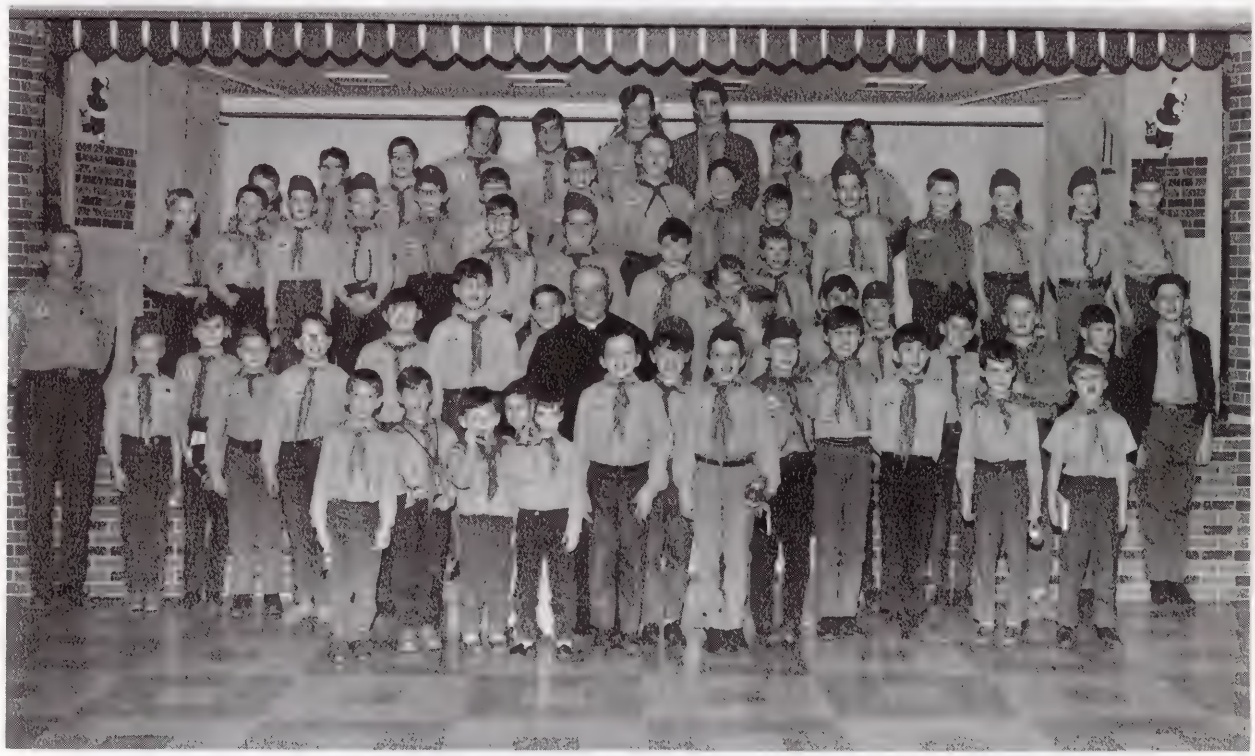
HUNGARIAN SCOUT ASSOCIATION - TROOP 33



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Golden Jubilee Year

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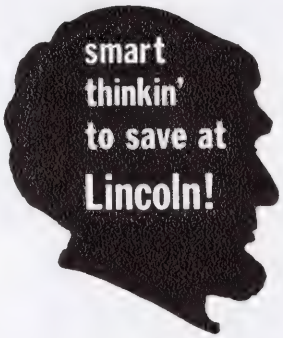

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This Jubilee Program Book is the result of the varied contributions of many people—all doing their share to make our Golden Anniversary souvenir a reality. I wish to express my sincere and grateful appreciation for this generous response.

Many, many thanks . . .

To Father Desider Hoffman and to Father Ladislaus Rosko—for their continued solid support, their encouragement, their blessings and their words of appreciation for the hard-working Program Book Committee.

To our Parishioners—who rallied to the cry for financial help with Patron and In Memoriam listings and for their generous loan of treasured old pictures and memorable stories of the early years of our Church.

To all Church Organizations—for their liberal contributions in reserving ad space and for their aid in putting together pieces of the eventful life of our Parish.

To our good friends in business, in the professions, in public office — for their financial donations that made it possible for us to make a better Book. Remember these people — and whenever possible, patronize them.

To our Church Councilmen — Frank Pitcavage, Joseph Pupinsky, Andrew Sonokey Jr., Ben Sliwinski, Joseph Agg, Steve Jozsa, William Kecskemety, John Kaspar and George Melega — for their ready help in every phase of our work

To a wonderful group of people—the Program Book Committee—working with them was a pleasant and rewarding experience. This was a big task and required an assortment of work—soliciting ads, arranging the pages, sorting, sifting, selecting, writing, proof-reading, keeping records, answering questions, being available in the Program Book Headquarters in the Church Lobby after Sunday Masses — and making decisions, making changes — always alert to produce the finest, most interesting and attractive Book with the funds available.

Space does not permit me to list all the special and individual jobs each of the Committee has done — all have contributed willingly in accordance with their ability and talents. It was a great effort that made this Book, that seemed impossible just last summer, a beautiful finished product that all will treasure.

Here are the men and women of the Program Book Committee — and I thank them again — John Kozsey, Betty Procop, Betty Schneider, Andrew Hudacko, Sr., Joseph and Anne Kastelic, Ernest and Mary Bago, Lucille Hornick, Chester Kosy, Anthony Szabo and Adeline Savoca. Included on this Committee is the friendly and efficient Office Staff of the St. Margaret's Parish Federal Credit Union — Steve Halas, Frank Szell, Carole Horansky, Theresa Halas and Rose Tepfenhart.

I humbly acknowledge that without the help of these many, many people — this Book could not have been published.

SAM S. SAVOCA,
Chairman—Jubilee Program Book